

The Regular City Council Meeting of June 26, 2018 was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**MAYOR**

Phillip A. Howard

**OTHERS**

Shannan Kinsley  
Chief David Bejar  
Don Reddout  
Gigi Duke  
Jane Sams  
Kristin Marshall  
Jeff English  
Patricia Howard

Sean Skaggs  
Madeline McCloskey  
Peter Carey  
Ron Green  
Scott Ristow

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Susan Darst  
Holly Holleway - Absent  
Jennifer Nottingham  
Lynn Tiner  
Kimberly Verity

Mayor Howard declared a quorum with Council member Nottingham, Council member Verity, Council member Tiner and Council member Darst present. He stated Council member Holleway is absent. The meeting was started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 27, 2018 Regular City Council Meeting were reviewed. Council member Tiner stated on page 2, under Grey Forest Community Board (GFCB) Update, last line; the record should reflect “compliance” instead of “compliant”. The motion to approve the February 27, 2018 Minutes as amended was made by Council member Nottingham, seconded by Council member Tiner and passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS BY CITIZENS AND VISITORS**

Mayor Howard stated Sandra Schneider, Grey Forest and Hill Country Property Owner/Land Steward sent in a letter and asked him to ready the following aloud for the record:

“Grey Forest Council: The June 26, 2018 Council agenda item “Discuss and Act on Recent Influx of Axis Deer” is most curious. The probability of having a Zika Virus infected mosquito is much higher, than ever seeing an Axis Deer in this area. As a Grey Forest and hill country property owner and land steward, Grey Forest and the ETJ area has a healthy white-tailed deer population that has not changed, or appear grossly over-populated, per my over 46 years of observation. If anything, the deer population appears lower than 5 years ago, and it is rare to see an antlered male older than 3 or even 4 years of age. In July of 2016, Brenda Reinhard tried to conjure support on Next Door to have the Grey Forest deer population humanely removed. I seriously doubt any Council member and most citizens in this community have ever witnessed, experienced and/or understand the process of deer being “humanely removed”. The white-tail deer population has been stable over decades in our community, due to our many natural predators, as well as local and ETJ hunting in and out of season. Each year many fawns die due to natural selection, or other various unfortunate events. Further deer and many fawns, as intentional or accidental road kills, are common occurrences throughout the year in this community and down Scenic Loop Rd. The deer and other wildlife that grace our community are not the problem. The problem is people who have no respect for living in a protected, wildlife-preserve community, or understand how to be good quasi-urban land stewards. Protecting and the enjoyment of our wildlife is the very reason most of us chose to live in this area. The Grey Forest Mayor and Council are reminded that they are community servants. It is suggested that a more relevant agenda item would have been the Bexar County burn ban and the prudent use of July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks in our community during drought conditions”.

**MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Mayor Howard stated we are having a software glitch with QuickBooks and our ability to report the financials. Once corrected, we will provide updated financials to City Council.

Mayor Howard stated the Monthly Legal Activity has been provided. We continue to incur expenses for the litigation involving Edwin and Irene Scharf vs. the City of Grey Forest.

### **COUNCIL/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council member Nottingham stated the Scenic Loop – Helotes Creek Corridor Initiative Brain Storming Session is this coming Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Please attend; let us know what you think and would like to see.

### **COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS**

Mayor Howard stated the Road Improvement Subcommittee continues to work with Maverick Surveying on finishing the drawings for the road and right-of-way survey. If Council recalls, an additional project was added to the original scope of work to identify properties which were given by or to the City which will be included in the final report. He continues to study potential funding sources such as grants. Presently, our grant expertise resides with Council member Darst which is a part of her job with the City of Helotes. To gain additional grant capability; Council member Verity will be attending Grant Writing Training August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The tuition is \$455.00.

### **GREY FOREST COMMUNITY BOARD (GFCB) UPDATE**

Madeline McCloskey stated Valla is almost finished with the punch list for the renovations at the Community Center. They have scheduled rentals for the Community Center so the work needs to be completed soon. The GFCB has its 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration coming up.

### **SENATOR FRANK L. MADLA, JR. NATURAL AREA UPDATE**

Council member Nottingham stated the Annual Madla Fundraiser is scheduled for March 23, 2019. They continue to have work sessions on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. Board Meetings are held on the last Sunday of every month and all are welcome.

### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT UPDATE**

Shannan Kinsley stated there was a Board of Adjustment Public Hearing on May 30, 2018. The property is on Scenic Loop Road. The homeowners were requesting a Variance to build a garage on an existing foundation with the same footprint and couldn't meet the side/rear setbacks. The Board of Adjustment approved the Variance with the stipulation that the homeowner has to add a drainage system.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT**

Chief Bejar reviewed the May 2018 Monthly Activity Report. There were 163 calls for service, 969 hours worked, 5222 total miles driven, 41 traffic stops, 33 citations issued and 11 warnings issued. Chief Bejar stated Officer Robert North retired from his full-time position with the City this month. He will continue to be a part of City in the capacity as a Reserve Officer. Officer Scott Ristow has filled Officer North's full-time position. Officer Ristow came to us from Schertz Police Department and has been with the City part-time since December 2017.

### **PUBLIC WORKS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Howard stated Public Works continues to work on brush chipping.

### **GFU UTILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jeff English stated they have mailed out the Annual Water Quality Report. The Grey Forest water system tested very well. They are still waiting on the final report from the company that evaluated the old water tank on whether it can be rehabilitated or should be demolished. He has been in discussion with the Mayor to determine if they are going to need to move to Stage 1 Water Restrictions. Ordinance No. 123 specifies the well levels that require action by the City. That

action is administered by Grey Forest Utilities. Stage 1 Water Restrictions are initiated if the well levels drop to 450 feet. Stage 1 Water Restrictions try to obtain voluntary cooperation on reducing the consumption of water. There would be an objective of trying to reduce it by at least 10% going forward. At this point, the levels are at 405 feet; well above the 450 feet. Stage 2 Water Restrictions initiate at 500 feet where the City would take preventative steps and penalize people. Thankfully, he's not aware of time we had to go into these restrictions and is a testimony to the great wells we have. They will continue to monitor the wells daily.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Don Reddout stated there were 6 calls in the City for the month of May 2018; 3 EMS and 3 other than medical. The Average Response Time was 3.67 minutes, Average Number of Personnel 3.67 and Average Number of Apparatus 1.67. One of the calls was an accident in the City that hit a power pole with no medical issues.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. DISCUSS AND ACT ON CITY SUPPORT OF 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE**

Mayor Howard stated the Grey Forest Community Board (GFCB) has requested the City's support of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. The parade starts at the Community Center to Hillside, to Grey Forest Drive, to Lovers Lane, to Sherwood Trail and back to the Community Center. The parade will begin around 11:00 a.m. Council member Nottingham stated she supports the parade except it ignores the Southside of the City again. She goes through this every year. She stated they can come from Sherwood Trail, take a left onto Hilltop, Hilltop to Park and Park back down to the Community Center. Madeline McCloskey stated she supports adding that to the route. There was discussion if Cedar Crest should be added to the route and determined it's too difficult to cross Scenic Loop Road. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council member Nottingham made the motion to accept the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade route as amended. The motion was seconded by Council member Tiner and passed unanimously.

### **2. DISCUSS AND ACT ON SETTING DATE FOR A BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET**

Mayor Howard stated he would like to set a date for a Budget Workshop to begin working on the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year Budget. There was discussion on Council's availability. Council consented to scheduling the Workshop for July 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Howard stated if Council has any particular information they would like included in the budget, please advise prior to the workshop so he can draft a budget to start working from. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council member Nottingham made the motion to schedule a Budget Workshop for July 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Council member Verity and passed unanimously.

### **3. DISCUSS AND ACT ON APPOINTMENT OF THREE BOARD MEMBERS TO THE SENATOR FRANK L. MADLA, JR. NATURAL AREA BOARD OF DIRECTORS PURSUANT TO AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 180**

Ron Green stated he is the Chairperson on the Senator Frank L. Madla, Jr. Natural Area Board of Directors. Board member appointments are required every two years. At the May Board of Directors Meeting, the Board voted unanimously to accept the requests from Matt "Sunshine" Baker, John Chaffee and Ron Green to continue serving on the Board for another two-year term. All three Board members have committed to an additional term and he's submitting their names to City Council for consideration. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council member Darst made a motion to reappointment Matt Baker, John Chaffee and Ron Green to the Senator Frank L. Madla, Jr. Natural Area Board of Directors for a two-year term. The motion was seconded by Council Nottingham and passed unanimously.

### **4. DISCUSS AND ACT ON APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL PERSON TO THE SENATOR FRANK L. MADLA, JR. NATURAL AREA BOARD OF DIRECTORS PURSUANT TO AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 180**

Mayor Howard stated Council member Nottingham would like to continue as the Council Person representative on the Board of Directors. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council member Tiner made the motion to appoint Council member Nottingham as the Council Person Board member on the Senator Frank L. Madla, Jr. Natural Area Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Council member Verity and passed with 3 YES and 1 ABSTAINING by Council member Nottingham.

**5. DISCUSS AND ACT ON APPOINTMENT OF THREE BOARD MEMBERS TO THE GREY FOREST COMMUNITY BOARD (GFCB) PURSUANT TO AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 215**

Madeline McCloskey, Chairperson on the GFCB stated they have three Board positions that are being vacated by Kimberly Verity, Laurie Hawkins and Kerry McEntire. The GFCB voted on June 7, 2018 to recommend appointment of Kristin Marshall, Peter Carey and Patricia Baker to fill the upcoming empty positions. The Board unknowingly voted without a quorum on June 7, 2018, but met again on Monday, June 25, 2018 to officially accept their requests to be seated on the Board. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council Member Tiner made the motion to accept the recommendation of the GFCB and appoint Kristin Marshall, Peter Carey and Patricia Baker to a two-year term on the Grey Forest Community Board. The motion was seconded by Council member Nottingham and passed unanimously.

**6. DISCUSS AND ACT ON APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL PERSON TO THE GREY FOREST COMMUNITY BOARD (GFCB) PURSUANT TO AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO.215**

Mayor Howard stated Council member Tiner currently serves on the GFCB as the Council Person representative and is willing to continue to serve. Mayor Howard asked for a motion. Council member Verity made the motion to appoint Council member Tiner as the Council Person Board member to the Grey Forest Community Board. The motion was seconded by Council Nottingham and passed with 3 YES and 1 ABSTAINING by Council member Tiner.

**7. DISCUSS AND ACT ON RECENT INFLUX OF AXIS DEER**

Mayor Howard stated Council member Nottingham asked that this item be placed on the Agenda. Council member Nottingham stated citizens have mentioned to her that they have seen axis deer in the area. She thought Council could discuss it and maybe ask the Grey Forest Community Board (GFCB) to provide some education. We have many people that have moved to Grey Forest that would like to learn how to get along with the animals we have here. Mayor Howard stated he would like to see ongoing annual education and at least one session be with Texas Parks and Wildlife. The animals that we have frequenting our area are from different variations of deer as well as mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, turkey and feral hogs. It would be a part of the educational process. We have lots of topics here that Texas Parks & Wildlife has the expertise on and could help us with. Council member Verity stated she thinks outreach is extremely important and figuring out how we are going to reach the people that aren't coming to the meetings. There was discussion on methods of communicating and educational opportunities. Mayor Howard stated he would leave those details to the GFCB and recommends Council task the GFCB to come up with the educational programs addressing not only the axis deer but all wildlife in our area. In the meantime, if the GFCB would like; maybe put some out there now stating they will be working with Texas Parks & Wildlife on educational opportunities. Council member Verity made the motion to ask the Grey Forest Community Board to put together an educational program about wildlife in our local area. The motion was seconded by Council member Nottingham as passed unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

There was no further business. Mayor Howard adjourned the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:20 p.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Shawna Kinley.

These minutes were approved as written ~~amended~~ on the 27th day of November, 2018.

Signed: Phillip A. Howard

Phillip A. Howard, Mayor